

Mr. MORAN of Kansas. Mr. Speaker, Americans are being forced to foot the bill for trillions of dollars of increased government spending this year while they are struggling to make their own ends meet.

As Kansans sit at their kitchen table trying to balance their checkbooks, this Congress has been borrowing and spending money like there is no tomorrow. The latest example of this reckless spending is a 2,500-page omnibus spending bill approved by the House of Representatives yesterday. This \$447 billion package does not require any of the tough choices that Americans are having to make every day in this difficult economy. Unfortunately, for the next generation of Americans, there will be severe consequences from our government's failure to control spending and the resulting huge increases in our national debt.

The Democrat leadership will soon try to raise our \$12.1 trillion national debt limit by an additional \$1.8 trillion. The Federal Government is mortgaging our Nation's future and its well-being to countries like China. The result of this spend-and-borrow approach is evident.

President Obama and Speaker PELOSI, show bold leadership and get our country back on track by cutting spending and reducing our country's debt, not by omnibus spending bills and debt ceiling increases.

REMEMBERING ED STIMPSON

(Mr. DICKS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. DICKS. Madam Speaker, it is with great sadness that I come before the House to note the death of a leader in the civil aviation industry and a man familiar to many here in Congress. Mr. Ed Stimpson, who served as president of General Aviation Manufacturers Association for 19 years, died at his home on November 25 in Boise, Idaho. Many of us in this Chamber recall that he was the driving force behind the General Aviation Revitalization Act which altered the liability of small aircraft manufacturers and led to a reinvigoration of the small aircraft industry in the United States.

After he retired from direct leadership of the association, he took on a new project, the "Be a Pilot" campaign that was designed to increase the population of student pilots in the United States. It was a great success, not only in enlarging the number of citizens capable of flying live aircraft, but also in providing a technological boost to the manufacturing industry that resulted in the design and construction of new and safer aircraft.

Later, he was named by President Bill Clinton to the International Civil Aviation Organization, a Montreal-based group that promotes safe aviation around the world. He served in that post with the rank of ambassador through 2004, and he was one of three

ambassadors to be reappointed by President George W. Bush. His reappointment was indicative of the bipartisan approach he brought to all of his endeavors.

Ed Stimpson was also a recipient of the Wright Brothers Memorial Trophy for Lifetime Achievement. He was a great leader, a great friend of many of us, and he will be missed.

I would like to insert a personal reflection that was published in Seattle last week by a long-time friend of Ed's, Mr. Ted Van Dyk.

OUR GOOD FRIEND, ED STIMPSON

(By Ted Van Dyk)

Ed Stimpson, a longtime leader in the civil-aviation industry, died this past Wednesday in Boise. His obituary, distributed via Associated Press from Boise and picked up by other media, was maddeningly unsatisfying. It listed his achievements as a U.S. ambassador, head of national civil-aviation bodies, and leader of a general-aviation trade association. But it gave no sense of his wonderful qualities as a human being and of his meaningful civic and political involvements.

Born in Bellingham exactly one month before I was, Ed Stimpson was the son of a beloved physician and the oldest of seven children. The hospital where both of us were born is now named after his father. We grew up in hard times and shared a firm commitment to the Democratic Party and its agenda of the time. The president of our high school Democratic Club was Sterling Munro, who later would serve as Sen. Henry (Scoop) Jackson's principal assistant.

In 1962, when I was being released from a recall to military service, a chance street-corner meeting with Ed led to my being hired by the then-European Communities (the present European Union). He was at that time representing the Seattle World's Fair in Washington, D.C. At the fair he met Dorothy Sortor, a Century 21 public-affairs officer, and later married her. They were brought together, I always thought, by Eddie Carlson, the driving force behind the fair and a lifetime friend and sponsor of many of us who were coming up at the time.

Later Ed went on to executive positions in government, in aviation, and in business. While an officer of Morrison-Knudsen, he and his wife Dottie bought a home in Boise which was their home base thereafter. Ed and Dottie also helped transform Boise from a conservative political bastion into the state's Democratic stronghold. In 1972, when Jackson had no chance of nomination, they campaigned hard for his presidential candidacy. Later, when House Speaker Tom Foley's reelection was threatened, they dropped everything and moved to Spokane to help in what turned out to be a losing effort.

Ed's and Dottie's strongest and longest friends have included Rep. Norm Dicks and his family, former Jackson chief of staff Denny Miller, and former Warren Magnuson chief of staff Jerry Grinstein. He and Dottie kept a photo album of their outings with the Dicks family. (Other local friends include two members of the Crosscut family, Peter Jackson, son of Scoop, and Gene Carlson, son of Eddie Carlson). Beyond politics, aviation, and the business world, Ed Stimpson had an army of friends and admirers who had met him at various intersections along the way. When he was diagnosed with lung cancer several months ago (Ed had never smoked), e-mails began flowing in great number among friends from all his lives.

I called Ed when I got the news. He had found himself short of breath while walking

through the Denver airport and had gone to his doctor for what he thought would be a routine checkup. Later, the lung cancer spread to his brain.

As my own good luck would have it, I spent last Saturday with Ed and Dottie at St. Luke's hospital in Boise. He was heavily medicated. He argued unsuccessfully with his nurses that he be allowed to dress and "have lunch and conversation at a more suitable place" than at his hospital bed. Characteristically, he talked not about himself or his illness but about current public issues, his involvement in an aviation-industry study, and his pride in his part in strengthening the Idaho Democratic Party. Denny Miller visited a day later. Then Ed was sent home to hospice care. He passed almost immediately—spared, as it turned out, from a long ordeal for him and for Dottie which might have followed.

E-mails have flowed from the Stimpson network since his passing. That is because he was held in such love and respect by all whose lives he had touched. Over his lifetime he was never known to speak cruelly or harshly about another person. He preferred instead to make his own positive contributions wherever he could. His integrity shone. He was the archetype "other-oriented" person, always seeking to help other people and causes, never to advance himself. He was a good and rare human being.

SPECIAL ORDERS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 6, 2009, and under a previous order of the House, the following Members will be recognized for 5 minutes each.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Texas (Mr. POE) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. POE of Texas addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

CAP-AND-TRADE IS BAD FOR AMERICA

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Kansas (Mr. MORAN) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. MORAN of Kansas. Mr. Speaker, one in 10 Americans are without jobs this holiday season. This level of unemployment is the highest our country has seen in a quarter-century. In the midst of these difficult times, jobs are at the top of America's holiday wish list, yet the President has sent negotiators to Copenhagen to devise and deliver another job killer.

Negotiators from nations around the world convened in the Danish capital this week with the goal of developing a successor to the failed Kyoto Protocol, which sought to reduce worldwide greenhouse gas emissions. When Kyoto was negotiated, the Senate unanimously approved the Byrd-Hagel resolution. This important resolution established U.S. policy that our country would not enter into any climate treaty that leaves out developing nations or hurts the American economy. In passing the resolution, the Senate recognized the damage such an agreement would do to the U.S. economy.

The President and his negotiators would be wise to abide by these guidelines today, as any agreement reached in Copenhagen would likely be more devastating to the American economy than Kyoto. But it's not just Copenhagen that Americans have to worry about, the President wants to pursue an environmental agenda in any way he can, including through cap-and-trade. In my view, cap-and-trade, approved by the House of Representatives in June, remains one of the most damaging pieces of legislation ever passed by the House of Representatives during my time in Congress, especially as it affects agriculture and rural America.

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The passage of a cap-and-trade bill will increase the cost of doing business in the United States, will force business owners to close their doors, and will cause companies to leave the country for locations where costs are lower.

The respected Heritage Foundation studied the Waxman-Markey cap-and-trade bill. The study showed that the legislation would result in annual losses to GDP of almost \$400 billion and that it would lead to the loss of 1 million jobs.

At a House Agriculture Subcommittee on Conservation, Credit, Energy, and Research hearing last week, USDA's chief economist and other experts from universities across the Nation all testified that the costs for fuel, fertilizer and other business inputs would increase under cap-and-trade, meaning more harm to business and the people they employ.

For example, one witness cited an Energy Information Administration analysis that showed, in 2030, the Waxman-Markey bill would raise diesel fuel costs by 15 percent, electricity costs by 22 percent and industrial natural gas costs by 26 percent. The last thing we need is another law or treaty that dashes the hope for economic recovery and that destroys more jobs, but the President continues to push for just that.

On Monday, the EPA ruled that carbon dioxide and five other greenhouse gases are a danger to public health and to the environment. This decision means EPA can impose greenhouse gas regulations without Congressional action. This threat is no reason to pass cap-and-trade. We must defeat cap-and-trade in the Senate and then put an end to the faulty interpretation of the Clean Air Act by the EPA.

The President should refrain from entering into international agreements, and the EPA must be stopped from making decisions that are not supported by science or current law. At a time when so many Americans are without work, the President needs to focus on ways to create jobs and to improve the economy.

A cap-and-trade bill, EPA regulations, or an international treaty, all of which are on the President's holiday wish list, would be devastating to the

U.S. economy. That's a holiday gift that no American can afford. The passage of cap-and-trade, an agreement in Copenhagen, clean air findings by the EPA—we can just as soon leave those presents under the Christmas tree unopened.

President Obama and Speaker PELOSI, don't be the grinch that steals our Christmas. And I hope that is not "just the way it is."

CEREAL NIGHT AND RECOGNIZING THE IMPORTANCE OF PAH AWARENESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Rhode Island (Mr. LANGEVIN) is recognized for 5 minutes.

CEREAL NIGHT

Mr. LANGEVIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize a very special event happening tonight in my district thanks to the efforts of a very special young boy and his family. This evening, the second annual Cereal Night will take place at North Kingstown High School in Rhode Island, which is where hundreds will gather to donate to our local food pantries.

The mastermind behind this event is one of my young constituents, Patrick Gannon, an 11-year-old 5th grader and Cub Scout from North Kingstown. Like all Rhode Islanders, Patrick has seen the devastating effects of the economic downturn in our State, where unemployment has reached 13 percent, where record numbers of foreclosures continue to force people from their homes, where food pantries are struggling to meet the needs in their communities, and where too many of our neighbors are desperate for a hand.

Well, last year, when he was only 10 years old, Patrick came up with a way to help. His idea was that, one night of the year, families could eat cereal for dinner and could donate the money or food they saved to a local food pantry. While encouraged by his parents, Bill and Jackie, he began to organize the first Cereal Night last December. Soon, friends, local businesses, and even our Governor were involved in highlighting this initiative.

On the night before the event, though, a snowstorm hit Rhode Island, making it doubtful that there would be a big turnout. Nevertheless, Patrick was there the next day at one of the drop-off sites, running out to cars through the snow to accept their donations. At the end of the day, three tons of food were donated to the Rhode Island Food Bank, and plans to build on this success were put in motion.

Like any proud mother, Jackie did her best to spread the word—reaching out to nonprofit organizations and even writing to President and Mrs. Obama, telling them about Patrick's work and asking them to make Cereal Night a national event. Well, sadly, she won't be able to see those efforts come to fruition. On November 7 of this year,

2 days before Patrick's 11th birthday, Jackie suffered a ruptured aneurysm and passed away. Well, her death was a shocking and heartbreaking blow to her family and friends, but they have channeled their grief towards the cause that she was inspired to embrace by her son Patrick.

This year, Cereal Night will be an opportunity for the community to come together to give something back to those in need, to celebrate Patrick's imagination and commitment and to honor the life of a beloved mother who touched all those who were lucky enough to know her.

This holiday season, we are reminded of how important it is to help each other get through these tough times. We are all reminded of families like the Gannons, where the spirit of giving and of serving the community is passed down from generation to generation. We are reminded that you are never too young to make a difference.

Patrick is an inspiration to me, and I encourage my colleagues and all those who are listening to follow his example by donating to a local food pantry, by starting a Cereal Night in your own community, and by spreading the word about this simple effort that can mean so much to a neighbor in need.

My thoughts and prayers go out to Jackie's family, including Patrick, her husband, Bill, and their younger son, Liam, as well as her friends and all those who mourn her loss.

RECOGNIZING THE IMPORTANCE OF PAH AWARENESS

Mr. Speaker, I start a second statement, which is equally inspiring.

I consider it a privilege to recognize and commend the extraordinary efforts of a young man named Matt Moniz. This 11-year-old from Boulder, Colorado, scaled three of the world's seven summits in order to raise money and awareness for his best friend, Iain Hess, who suffers from Pulmonary Arterial Hypertension, or PAH.

PAH is a rare, progressive disorder characterized by abnormally high blood pressure in the pulmonary artery—the blood vessel that carries blood from the heart to the lungs. For people living with PAH, like Matt's friend, Iain, the simplest of daily activities can cause shortness of breath, dizziness, fatigue, chest pain, and swollen legs and ankles.

As an experienced climber, Matt is very familiar with these symptoms, which can often affect climbers at high altitudes; but while Matt knows that he'll be fine as soon as he descends the mountain, there is no known cure for those who suffer from PAH. It's a life-threatening disease that can cost thousands of dollars a month to treat. In fact, Iain's medical bills run more than \$100,000 a year. Right now, Iain's family is fortunate to have health insurance that absorbs much of the cost of his care. However, they are all too aware that Iain may soon reach the lifetime limit of his coverage, leaving them no